

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-5 and 9-26 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over specific claims of Application No. 10/128,439. Accordingly, claims 1-5 and 9-26 remain pending.

Claims 6-8 stand allowed.

Summary of the Response

Claims 1-26 remain pending. Applicants submit a Terminal Disclaimer to facilitate allowance of the present application, thereby obviating the double patenting rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the double patenting rejection be withdrawn.

The Rejection under Obviousness-type Double Patenting

Claims 1-5 and 9-26 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over specific claims of Application No. 10/128,439. While Applicants do not concede to the merits of the rejection, Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to facilitate allowance of the pending claims. The undersigned is associated with Customer No. 009629 to which power of attorney has been granted and, therefore, is an agent of record. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is moot and that claims 1-5 and 9-26 are in clear condition for allowance.

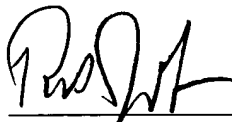
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.R.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully Submitted,

By:



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Dated: August 25, 2004

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